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27572 7590 05/13/2009  
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EXAMINER

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ART UNIT

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2416

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## DETAILED ACTION

Applicant canceled claims 6, 8-17 and 19-20. Claims 1-5 and 18 remain pending in the application.

### *Response to Arguments*

Applicant's arguments filed 04/24/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the prior art reference fails to disclose the flow control packet comprises an 802.3x pause frame and the VC-Trunk tag as a header to the 802.3x pause frame.

- Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant's characterization of the prior art. Bordogna et al. does teach of the flow control packet comprises an 802.3x pause frame (see paragraph 19, lines 11-19, the GFP mapping function 130,155, detects congestion conditions and a flow control indicator is mapped by the GFP mapping function associated to a transmitting end station to a port based **pause frame**) and the VC-Trunk tag as a header to the 802.3x pause frame (see paragraph 21, lines 4-6, that Ethernet packets are encapsulated within the GFP layer that is transmitted across the SONET network including GFP header and customer identification header as disclosed in figure 3).
- Notice in figure 1, there is a transport (SONET) network 150 and Ethernet networks 110, 160, and the mapping functions 130,155; notice that in paragraph 16, lines 3-10, the mapping function 155 has the functionality of transmitting a pause frame on

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the **end-to-end path** across the SONET network 150. Notice in paragraph 19, lines 11-19, the GFP mapping function 130,155, detects congestion conditions and a flow control indicator is mapped by the GFP mapping function associated to a transmitting end station to a port based **pause frame** sent only to the offending transmitting end-station. Notice in paragraph 21, lines 4-6, that Ethernet packets are encapsulated within the GFP layer that is transmitted across the SONET network including GFP header and customer identification header as disclosed in figure 3. Applicant is also pointed to paragraph 22, lines 1-13, a flow control bit is included to indicate overflow condition, the flow control indicator is set by GFP mapping function 130,155 and hence the GFP associated with the offending station will receive a **packet** with the flow control indicator set. Also, notice that in paragraph 26, lines 4-16, the GFP mapping function maps the **port based pause frame** (received by a receiving end terminal in a LAN) to a **flow control indicator** in the **GFP linear expansion header** 300 for transmission across the **transport network** (as shown Figure 1) to the offending station.

/Aung S. Moe/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2416